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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: /Nina L. McNeill/ Nina L. McNeill

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No. 3268

AMENDMENT

ART BERTOLERO et al.

Examiner: Christine D. Hopkins

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 021063-000510US

Application No.: 10/731,683

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3735

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR CARDIAC SURGERY

Customer No.: 20350

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 18, 2009, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.